



---

Tuesday, May 20, 2003

Contact: Lori Getter, Wisconsin Emergency Management, 608-242-3239

Jessica Erickson, Governor's Office, 608-261-2156

## **Governor Calls for Citizens to Remain Alert**

Governor Jim Doyle is encouraging Wisconsin residents to continue with their work, school, and upcoming Memorial Day weekend activities, but to be aware and cautious of their surroundings and report any suspicious activities to local law enforcement.

Citing the recent terrorist attacks in Morocco and Saudi Arabia and new potential terrorism threats, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security today will raise the nation's terror assessment level from "yellow," indicating an elevated threat of a terrorist attack, to "orange," or high risk of terrorist attack.

"Recent events overseas have reminded us that the threat of terrorism against American citizens continues," Governor Doyle said. "As Memorial Day approaches, I urge Wisconsin citizens to continue with their daily activities and weekend plans, but to remain vigilant and calm and report anything unusual or suspicious to law enforcement. We must be prepared, but we cannot and will not live in fear."

Governor Doyle has spoken with Major General Al Wilkening, whom he appointed in February to lead the Wisconsin Homeland Security Council. The Governor and Wilkening will remain in close contact in the coming days and weeks as Wisconsin maintains orange alert status.

Governor Doyle said Wisconsin citizens should continue with any travel plans or events for the upcoming Memorial Day weekend, but they should use caution and listen to the news to keep abreast of any new developments regarding the heightened threat alert and additional security procedures. The Governor also said that schools, businesses and government should remain open. He advises these groups to review their emergency plans and implement any appropriate security measures.

In addition, the Governor's Homeland Security Council advises citizens to review their family disaster plans and check their disaster supply kit to make sure it is ready and available. Additional information can be found at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security website at [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov).

- 30 -